

NLC to Host Audioconference December 18 on Funding Strategies for Afterschool Youth Programs

Special Announcement: The Your City's Families Conference which was cancelled in September is now re-scheduled for May 1-4, 2002 in Minneapolis. All those who were registered as attendees or speakers will be contacted individually with details. Others who would now like to consider registering should leave a message at 202/626-3014 or email rpdl@nlc.org.

AUDIOCONFERENCES RESUME THIS FALL ON YOUTH, EDUCATION, AND FAMILIES ISSUES:

- On Thursday, November 15 the topic will be building effective community teams (open to all who are involved in, or interested in, community teams; those who were planning to be part of a team at the Your City's Families Conference are especially welcome to listen in).
- On Tuesday, December 18 the topic will be effective financing strategies for afterschool programs.
- Both audioconferences start at 3:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).

Local officials and community leaders have identified these topics as priorities needing attention. These hour-long audioconferences for municipal officials provide opportunities to listen to a discussion of new ideas, innovative practices, and necessary skills. They are sponsored by NLC's Institute for Youth, Education, and Families.

TEAM BUILDING ON NOVEMBER 15

The Thursday, November 15 audioconference will highlight best practices and key opportunities for municipal leaders in "Creating and Maintaining Community Teams."

Cities across the country are using team-building strategies to advance successful community agendas for youth, education, and families. Local elected officials are joining forces with business leaders, school officials, local non-profit agencies, neighborhood leaders, city hall staff, youth, and other key stakeholders in the community. The key question in the audioconference will be: Why do some teams work and others don't? This audioconference discussion will include an overview of the elements and principles necessary for mobilizing and maintaining successful community teams to support children, youth, and families. Speakers will discuss team self-assessment and address common challenges. They will also share ideas on how to succeed, avoid pitfalls, and maintain momentum when carrying out collaboration. The audioconference will be appropriate both for newly formed teams and for teams that are already engaged in collaborative

efforts.

In addition to their experience in working with community teams from various cities across the U.S., the speakers also have municipal and program expertise including youth development, workforce issues, afterschool programming, and family support. The speakers will be:

- Lisa Nisenfeld, who is the President of Working Designs, Inc. in Portland, Oregon and a specialist in strategic planning and in workforce development and economic development.
- Bonnie Politz, who is Associate Director for the AED Center for Youth Development and Policy Research, Washington, DC, and a specialist in youth policy and community planning.
- Bruce Swinehart, who is a principal with Mesa Human Resource Consultants and Coordinator of the Boulder County Civic Forum, and was formerly Assistant Director of the City of Boulder Department of Housing and Human Services for Children, Youth, and Families.

FINANCING STRATEGIES ON DECEMBER 18.

The Tuesday, December 18 audioconference will highlight "Financing Strategies to Support Local Afterschool Programming."

This discussion will outline a range of traditional and innovative options, provide specific examples of strategies used by cities throughout the United States, and offer some of the lessons learned. This session will also provide participants with a basic understanding of where they can go for resources to fund activities focused on children and youth, and guidance on developing a funding strategy for their cities. Various options for generating resources will be discussed. These will include redeployment (using existing resources more effectively), refinancing (using state or federal funds to pay for services not financed entirely with local funds), raising new revenues (using tax strategies, fees, and grants), and restructuring (altering the way money is available through fund pools, flexible dollars, performance incentives, and privatization).

The speakers will be:

- Sharon Deich, who is Program Manager at the Finance Project in Washington, D.C. where she is responsible for Comprehensive Community Systems.
- Andria Fletcher, who is After School Intermediary for the Coalition for Creative Solutions in Sacramento, Calif.
- Sharon Henry-Blythe, who is Executive Director of the Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association and a candidate for the Minneapolis School Board in Minneapolis, Minn.

HOW THE AUDIOCONFERENCE WORKS. Audioconference technology allows

participants to listen by telephone to lively discussions between Institute staff and experts in program and policy. We will encourage questions from the audience - both through submissions ahead of time and during the latter part of the call itself.

These two audioconferences are free and are available only to a limited number of participants. Therefore, advance registration is required by close of business on Tuesday, November 13 for the first audioconference and by close of business on Friday, December 14 for the second one. A separate registration is needed for each phone line that will be used in placing the call.

Audioconference registrants are encouraged to invite colleagues to listen in together around a speakerphone. Some cities have used the call as a training session; others may want to use the call to brainstorm with local officials and community leaders. Those with teams already in place may wish to schedule a meeting for the entire team around the time of the audioconference and use it to generate new ideas and action planning.

Both audioconferences will start at 3:00 p.m. Eastern time and conclude at 4:00 p.m. One day prior to the event, each audioconference registrant will receive an e-mail or fax message that will provide a toll-free, dial-in number to call in order to join the audioconference. It will also share some brief information about the content of the call.

HOW TO REGISTER. To register, please e-mail or fax your name, title, organization, mailing address (including street, city, state, and zip), telephone, fax, and e-mail. Please specify if you are registering for November 15, December 18, or both. No telephone registrations can be accepted. You may e-mail to reid@nlc.org <<mailto:reid@nlc.org>> or you may fax to Andrea Reid at 202/626-3043. Those who register for the audioconference are invited to submit questions to the speakers in advance, and the moderator will attempt to use as many as possible. To do so, use the same e-mail or fax contact listed above.

PREVIOUS AUDIOCONFERENCES. Five previous audioconferences have been held. The topics were "protecting youth," "helping working families," "city-school partnerships," "effective afterschool programming," and "city roles in promoting early childhood development." A limited number of cassette tapes are available by contacting the Institute at reid@nlc.org or leaving a detailed message at the Institute information line at 202/626-3014.

RESOURCES. More information on collaboration is available in the NLC publication, "Making Collaboration Work." More information on financing strategies is available in the NLC publication, "New Directions: Financing Municipal Policies and Programs for Children and Youth." Individual copies

of these reports are available at no cost and can be obtained by leaving a detailed message on the Institute's information line at 202/626-3014 or e-mailing reid@nlc.org <<mailto:reid@nlc.org>>.

DETAILS. For questions, leave a message at 202/626-3014 or e-mail to reid@nlc.org. Remember, audioconference registrations will not be taken over the telephone.